



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information**, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to the requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: January 21, 2015

Date of Meeting: February 12, 2015

Submitted by: Donna Pohli

Time Required: Approximately 20 minutes

Department: Community Development

Background Info. Supplied: Yes

Speakers: Donna Pohli and Tim Thompson, AICP, Community Development

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	X	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

2015 Milfoil Grant Funds for Horseshoe Pond

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

To ask the Town Council to accept and authorize the expenditure of up to \$1,075.00 of the grant from NHDES for milfoil control via Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) in addition to the Town's matching share of \$6,865 this fiscal year for DASH for variable milfoil control efforts in portions of Horseshoe Pond. This totals \$7,940. We ask that the Town's share be expended from the Milfoil Capital Reserve fund. This request represents funding to allow for treatment in 2015 to control milfoil.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	31:95-b	Warrant Article:
Charter Article:	8	Town Meeting:
Other:		N/A:

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:	Donna Pohli	Address:	Community Development Dept.
Phone Number:	603-424-3531	Email Address:	dpohli@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

603 424-3531

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Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing

www.merrimacknh.gov

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 21, 2015
To: Nancy Harrington, Chair, & Members, Town Council
From: Donna Pohli, Assistant Planner, Community Development
Subject: 2015 Milfoil Grant Funds for Horseshoe Pond

Attached for your information are documents pertinent to the 2015 milfoil grant funds recently awarded to the Town of Merrimack. Should the Council vote to accept and authorize the expenditure of funds, the necessary paperwork will be completed, notarized and forwarded to the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for processing.

Horseshoe Pond has been treated for milfoil in 2011, 2013, and 2014 and has responded well to the treatment. Amy Smagula, Limnologist/Exotic Species Program Coordinator with the NHDES explains that, in order to maintain the quality and keep milfoil to a minimum, milfoil treatment will need to occur during 2015. Due to insufficient grant funds, NHDES does not suggest herbicide treatment in 2015 so this year's request is only pertinent to diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH). The milfoil issue in Horseshoe Pond continues to decrease with each year the pond is treated. The attached map is one used for the bids request provided by Ms. Smagula.

With respect to the 2015 grant funding, the NHDES selected Aqualogic, Inc. from several companies' bids to complete the DASH in Horseshoe Pond this year. According to the NHDES map sent out with bid requests, the divers would dive and/or perform diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH) for up to ten days from May through October as needed. As recommended by Ms. Smagula, bids were obtained based upon approximately 10 areas that require DASH this year (as shown on the attached image sent out with the bid requests).

The NHDES received requests for funds from many groups and, according to Ms. Smagula, grants were awarded on a 25% matching level for 2015 in order to assist as many groups as possible. Due to the number of requests received, the grant amount for Merrimack was awarded for up to \$1,075 for:

1. Diver/DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) work up to \$1,075 (based on an as needed basis), to be performed by Aqualogic, Inc.

Therefore the Town's share would be \$6,865 (\$7,940 total to be expended) which would be expended from the Milfoil Capital Reserve Fund. In order to maximize effectiveness, the DASH should be able to begin prior to the new fiscal year beginning in July.

Please find enclosed, the following materials:

- NHDES email dated January 12, 2015 from Amy Smagula, Limnologist/Exotic Species Program Coordinator notifying the Town of Merrimack of the Horseshoe Pond project selection;
- Aqualogic, Inc. bid proposal dated November 12, 2014;
- Map of Diver/DASH services of recent growth in 2014 from NHDES.

Suggested Motion:

That the Town Council vote to accept and authorize the expenditure of up to \$7,940 for DASH program at Horseshoe Pond of which \$1,075 is from a grant from NHDES for milfoil control via DASH, and the Town's portion is \$6,865 to be funded from the from the Milfoil Expendable Capital Reserve Fund and further more; the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager or her delegate to execute any and all documents which may be necessary.

Ec: Eileen Cabanel, Town Manager
Paul Micali, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director
Timothy J. Thompson, AICP, Community Development Director
Matt Casparius, Parks and Recreation Director
Ann Marie McKelvey, President of Island Drive Association

Cc: Correspondence
File

Becky Thompson

From: Smagula, Amy <Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 3:15 PM
To: Donna Pohli
Cc: annmarie313@comcast.net; nhgerdon@gmail.com
Subject: Horseshoe Pond- 2015 Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant Notification

The Department of Environmental Services (DES), Exotic Species Program has selected your exotic aquatic plant control project to receive a grant for 2015 control activities.

Specifically, DES will provide funds as follows:

Diver/Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) Grant: Up to \$1,075.00 for DASH/diving activities (to be calculated as up to 25% of costs incurred for actual dive days for up to 5 days in 2015). Note that this does not factor in mobilization costs for divers. The dive contractor is Aqualogic. DES will survey the lake regularly in 2015, to help guide dive efforts to maximize the effectiveness of this technique.

Herbicide Treatment Grant: Due to insufficient grant funds we suggest no herbicide treatment in 2015, unless local funds are available to pursue this option, should it be needed.

Note: We apologize for the fact that this grant award is likely lower than expected. The lower grant award for 2015 is the result of a combination of factors, including:

- *Increased number of requests for grant funds and costs of combined projects overall, relative to grant funds available to award. Specifically, DES received requests for 43 control projects, totaling \$1.2 million, with only about \$200,000 available in control grant funds in 2015.*
- *Lack of "surplus" funds available for transfer like in past years. Much of the surplus funding was spent down through grants over the 2012-2014 grant cycles, and no surplus funds exist at this time for transfer to supplement control grants.*
- *Lack of ability to spend newly allocated grant funds. As you may know, legislation passed in 2014 to increase the boat registration fee by \$2/boat to increase revenues for control grants. Those funds will be collected starting January 1, 2015, and are therefore not budgeted or available for the 2015 grant cycle (we cannot spend it before we accrue it). These funds will be available for 2016 grants.*
- *We expect to be able to award higher match levels in 2016 and beyond, and apologize for the inconvenience this year.*

I have worked through a variety of scenarios and have selected the best control options for your waterbody's infestation status, based on funds that are available and control methods that are needed/appropriate. In many cases final recommendations will not match up with bid guidance you were provided with this fall. If you wish to go above and beyond those that are recommended here, at your own cost, then I would be glad to provide recommendations about those options that are most logical and appropriate given your site-specific conditions (in many cases they would follow the original bid guidance and final bids for your waterbody).

DES is now in the process of preparing the necessary paperwork to proceed with obtaining approval on the above outlined grant allocation. In the next two weeks you will receive another email with grant agreement documents attached, as well as guidance on how to complete and return those documents. If you are not able to provide the balance of the funds for the projects outlined above from a local source, please notify me immediately.

If you are able to provide the balance of the costs for this project from local sources, and plan to accept these grant funds, then at this time please contact the contractor(s) listed above and inform them that you plan to accept their bid for work in 2015, and work with them on the next steps that they need to take in their own process of moving

forward. If your project includes an herbicide component, note that the permit process for herbicide treatment needs to begin in January, so that a permit can be obtained in a timely fashion for your control project, therefore rapid attention to this is critical.

Again, please confirm with me that you are willing to go forward with this project at this grant level, and if so, I will be in touch in the next week or two with more information and the paperwork for the grant.

Sincerely,
Amy Smagula

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Amy P. Smagula  
Limnologist/Exotic Species Program Coordinator  
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29 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: 603-271-2248  
Fax: 603-271-7894  
Email: [Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov)